



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.
22750/514

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am an original, first, and sole inventor of the subject matter that is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **FLAT GASKET FOR A RECIPROCATING ENGINE OR A DRIVEN MACHINE**, the German-language specification of which was filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on **December 4, 2001** and assigned Serial No. **10/006,597**, the English language translation of which is being filed herewith.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119
Fed. Republic of Germany	100 60 514.1	06 December 2000		YES

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys:

Richard L. Mayer (Reg. No. 22,490)

SEND CORRESPONDENCE, AND DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:

KENYON & KENYON

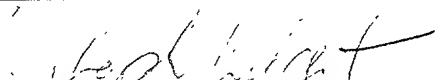


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I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME HILGERT	FIRST GIVEN NAME Christoph	SECOND GIVEN NAME
RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY 51491 Overath	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Federal Republic of Germany	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Federal Republic of Germany
POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS Löhrstraße 15	CITY 51491 Overath	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Federal Republic of Germany
Signature 		Date 19 June 2002	